

## SHORT COMMUNICATION

***Vachellia bolei* (Fabaceae: Mimosoideae), the correct name for a species from India**

The following new combination in *Vachellia* Wight & Arn. is required in accordance with Articles 52.1 and 52.2 of the *Melbourne Code* (McNeill *et al.* 2012). This is necessary because in creating *Vachellia wightii* Ragupathy, Seigler, Ebinger & Maslin, Ragupathy *et al.* (2014) erred by basing their new name on the illegitimate name, *Acacia wightii* Baker ex Benth. (Bentham 1875: 506). Although Article 58.1 of the Code does permit the re-use of an illegitimate name, this is only possible when there is 'no obstacle [to doing so] under the rules'. In this case the 'obstacle' was the existence of the legitimate name, *A. bolei* R.P.Subhedar (Subhedar 1985) and it is this name that should have been adopted as the basionym, as is done here.

***Vachellia bolei*** (R.P.Subhedar) Ragupathy, Seigler, Ebinger & Maslin, *comb. nov.*

*Acacia bolei* R.P.Subhedar, *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 82: 440 (1985); *Acacia wightii* Baker ex Benth., *Trans. Linn. Soc. London* 30: 506 (1875), *nom. illeg. non* Graham ex Wight & Arn. (1834: 274); *Vachellia wightii* Ragupathy, Seigler, Ebinger & Maslin, *Phytotaxa* 162: 177 (2014), *nom. illeg. superfl.* Type: India, K.D. Wight 896 (*lecto*: K; *isolecto*: CAL; designated by Subhedar (1985: 440)).

**Acknowledgements**

I am indebted to Jan-Frits Veldkamp (Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Botany Section) and to Brendan Lepschi and Anna Monro (Australian National Herbarium, Centre for Australian National Biodiversity Research, Canberra) for their helpful comments on the manuscript.

**References**

- Bentham, G. (1875). Revision of the suborder Mimoseae. *Transactions of the Linnean Society of London* 30: 335–670.
- McNeill, J., Barrie, F.R., Buck, W.R., Demoulin, V., Greuter, W., Hawksworth, D.L., Herendeen, P.S., Knapp, S., Marhold, K., Prado, J., Prud'Homme van Reine, W.F., Smith, G.F., Wiersema, J.H & Turland, N.J. (2012). *International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (Melbourne Code)*. Regnum Vegetabile 154. pp. 208. (Koeltz Scientific Books: Germany.)
- Ragupathy, S., Seigler, D.S., Ebinger, J.E. & Maslin, B.R. (2014). New combinations in *Vachellia* and *Senegalia* (Leguminosae: Mimosoideae) for south and west Asia. *Phytotaxa* 162(3): 174–180.
- Subhedar, R.P. (1985). A new name for *Acacia wightii* Baker ex Benth. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 82: 439–440.
- Wight, R. & Arnott, G.A.W. (1834). *Prodromus Florae Peninsulae Indiae Orientalis* 1: 1–480 (Parbury, Allen & Co: London.)

**Bruce R. Maslin**

Western Australian Herbarium, Department of Parks and Wildlife,  
Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, Western Australia 6983  
Email: Bruce.Maslin@dpaw.wa.gov.au